

Message Text

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60

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ISO-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00

PM-07 L-03 H-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01 /132 W

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O 290156Z NOV 73 ZFF-6

FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1581

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5202

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AFIN, AORG, UN, KS

SUBJ: UN BUDGET: MEMORIAL CEMETERY IN KOREA

REF: STATE'S 233081

SUMMARY: ROK, ANXIOUS TO REMOVE UN CEMETERY ITEM FROM
CONTENTION AT 28TH GA, PROPOSES THAT ROKG GUARANTEE
PROVISIONAL FUNDING OF CEMETERY FOR ONE YEAR TO PERMIT
(A) DELETION OF ITEM NOW FROM PROGRAM BUDGET, (B) AGREEMENT
BY GOVTS CONCERNED UPON LONG-TERM FUNDING OF CEMETERY COSTS.
WE STRONGLY ENDORSE KOREAN PROPOSAL AND RECOMMEND
DEPT CONCURRENCE, LEAVING ARRANGEMENTS FOR USG CONTRIBUTION
TO BE WORKED OUT LATER WITH ROKG AND OTHERS. END SUMMARY.

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1. PER NOV 28 USUN-IO TELECONS, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO ATTEMPT TO RETAIN UN CEMETERY ITEM IN 1974-75 UN BUDGET. WE DOUBT THAT WE COULD OBTAIN SUPPORT IN FIFTH COMMITTEE FOR DOING THIS; ROK MISSION HAS INFORMED US THAT IT WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT WISH TO LOBBY AT ALL FOR THIS PURPOSE. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT ROK VIEW THAT, CONSISTENT WITH CONSENSUS ACHIEVEMENT, OUR GOAL SHOULD BE TO REMOVE, INSOFAR AS POSSIBLE, ALL CONTENTIOUS ASPECTS OF KOREA FROM 28TH GA, INCLUDING FIFTH COMMITTEE. OUR PRINCIPAL ALLIES SHARE THIS VIEW.

2. ROK MISSION INFORMED US NOV 28 THAT FONMIN KIM HAS TENTATIVELY APPROVED AMB PARK'S PROPOSAL THAT ROK PROVISIONALLY UNDERWRITE FUNDING OF UN CEMETERY FOR COMING YEAR. FORMAL SEOUL APPROVAL OF THIS PROPOSAL IS NOW BEING SOUGHT. PURPOSE OF THIS PROPOSAL IS TO (A) PROVIDE 11 COUNTRIES WITH OPPORTUNITY TO SETTLE ON MEANS OF FUNDING CEMETERY WITHOUT UN INVOLVEMENT, AND (B) ENABLE CEMETERY ITEM TO BE REMOVED NOW FROM FIFTH COMMITTEE AGENDA WITHOUT CONTENTION AND WITH DIGNITY.

3. WE HAVE INFORMED ROK MISSION THAT, AD REFERENDUM TO DEPT, WE BELIEVE THIS STATESMANLIKE PROPOSAL WOULD SERVE OUR IMMEDIATE REQUIREMENTS. UK MISSION, WHICH REPORTS SUBSTANTIAL BUREACRATIC DIFFICULTIES WITH QUICK DECISION, HAS STRONGLY ENDORSED ROK MISSION PROPOSAL, AS HAS DUTCH MISSION.

4. SECRETARY OF FIFTH COMMITTEE HAS ASSURED US THAT CEMETERY ITEM WILL NOT COME UP FOR DISCUSSION OR ACTION IN FIFTH COMMITTEE UNTIL NEXT WEEK, BUT WE MUST BE PREPARED FOR ANY EVENTUALITY.

5. WE ARE MEETING MORNING NOV 29 WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS WHOSE NATIONALS INTERRED IN CEMETERY. ROK MISSION AT THAT MEETING WILL PROPOSE ITS INTERIM SOLUTION, WITH REQUEST THAT ALL DELEGATIONS SEEK IMMEDIATE INSTRUCTIONS TO SUPPORT INITIATIVE. HOPEFULLY BY END OF WEEK ALL DELEGATIONS WILL BE IN POSITION TO AGREE ON APPROACH TO FIFTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ASKING HIM TO REPORT THAT DELEGATIONS CONCERNED

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HAVE REQUESTED THAT CEMETERY ITEM BE WITHDRAWN FROM SECTION 32 OF 1974-75 PROGRAM BUDGET.

6. ROK PROPOSAL, ASSUMING CONFIRMATION FROM SEOUL, IS THAT ROK WOULD UNILATERALLY ESTABLISH TRUST FUND OF ABOUT \$1.5 MILLION, INTEREST FROM WHICH WOULD COVER CEMETERY COSTS. AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OTHER GOVERNMENTS INVOLVED WOULD "BUY INTO" TRUST FUND IN AMOUNTS LATER TO BE AGREED

UPON. AT THIS STAGE ROK MISSION IS NOT WEDDED TO TRUST FUND
OR TO ANY OTHER PARTICULAR ARRANGEMENT. THE ONE POINT ON
WHICH ROK IS CATEGORICAL, HOWEVER, IS THAT UN CEMETERY ITEM
MUST BE REMOVED WITH DIGNITY FROM GA, INCLUDING FIFTH
COMMITTEE, AGENDA. SINCE ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE, AT BEST,
UNPLEASANT BATTLE TO RETAIN ITEM IN BUDGET AND, AT WORST,
DEFEAT OF EFFORT TO RETAIN IN BUDGET, WE WILL ASSUME,
UNLESS WE RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO CONTRARY BEFORE
9:30 A.M. NOV 29, THAT USG SHOULD GO ALONG WITH ROK PROPOSAL.
BENNETT

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